



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,018	03/02/2004	Takashi Hananoi	249454US2	3563
22850 7590 09/17/2007 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER SAM, SESNA	
			ART UNIT 3609	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 09/17/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com  
oblonpat@oblon.com  
jgardner@oblon.com

## Office Action Summary

### Application No.

10/790,018

### Applicant(s)

HANANOI, TAKASHI

### Examiner

Sesna Sam

### Art Unit

3609

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☒ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>07/19/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claim 1-3, 5, 6, 11-13, 15, 16, 21-23, 25, 26, 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being unpatentable by **Goldsmith et al (US Patent No. 5,010,551)**.

As per claim 1, **Goldsmith et al** discloses a guidance output method for an electronic apparatus having a guidance part which indicates guidance information including operation procedures and warnings related to maintenance (**551'** figure 10-11), said guidance part being provided at a location corresponding to an apparatus part (**551'** column 6, lines 38-40), within the electronic apparatus, to which the guidance information is related, said guidance output method comprising the steps of: displaying, in response to a display instruction (**551'** figure 3, 213), guidance information indicated by a corresponding guidance part (**551'** figure 7), on a display part of the electronic apparatus.

As per claim 2, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the guidance output method further comprises the steps of generating the display instruction in response to an operation of a switch which is provided at said location (**551'** figure 9, column 8, lines 35-39) or a switch which is provided at a position other than said location.

As per claim 3, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the guidance output method further comprises the steps of generating the display instruction in response to an operation of a switch, which is integrally provided on the guidance part (**551'** figure 9, column 8, lines 35-39).

As per claim 5, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the guidance information includes at least one of information selected from a group consisting of operating instructions, cautions, layout of parts within the electronic apparatus, product name of the electronic apparatus, model number of the electronic apparatus, rated voltage, rated current, and methods of contacting services (**551'** figure 9, column 8, page 31-39).

As per claim 6, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the guidance information includes characters and/or pictures (**551'** column 8, line 56-62).

As per claim 11, **Goldsmith et al** discloses an electronic apparatus comprising:

- a display part (**551'** figure 4);
- a plurality of apparatus parts subject to maintenance (**551'** figure 10-11, column 2, lines 22-30);
- at least one guidance part to indicate guidance information including operation procedures and warnings related to maintenance (**551'** figure 10-11), said guidance part being provided at a location corresponding to one of the apparatus parts to which the guidance information is related (**551'** figure 9, column 8, lines 35-39); and
- a controller to display guidance information indicated by a corresponding guidance part on the display part (**551'** figure 3, figure 9), in response to a display instruction.

As per claim 12, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the electronic apparatus further comprises a switch which is provided at said location or at a position other than said location (**551'** column 6,

Art Unit: 3609

lines 38-40), said controller displaying the guidance information on the display part in response to a display instruction which is generated when the switch is operate (551' figure 7, figure 9, column 7, lines 2-13).

As per claim 13, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the electronic apparatus further comprising: a switch which is integrally provided on the guidance part (551' figure 9, column 8, lines 35-39), said controller displaying the guidance information on the display part in response to a display instruction which is generated when the switch is operated (551' figure 7, figure 9, column 7, lines 2-13).

As per claim 15, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the electronic apparatus, wherein the guidance information includes at least one of information selected from a group consisting of operating instructions, cautions, layout of parts within the electronic apparatus, product name of the electronic apparatus, model number of the electronic apparatus, rated voltage, rated current, and methods of contacting services (551' figure 9, column 8, lines 31-39)

As per claim 16, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the guidance information includes characters and/or pictures (column 8, lines 56-62).

As per claim 21, **Goldsmith et al** discloses a computer-readable storage medium which stores a program (551' figure 3, column 5, lines 6-20) for a computer within an electronic apparatus having a guidance part which indicates guidance information including operation procedures and warnings related to maintenance (551' figure 10-11), said guidance part being provided at a location corresponding to an apparatus part (551' figure 9, column 8, lines 35-39), within the electronic apparatus, to which the guidance information is related, said program

Art Unit: 3609

causing the computer to display the guidance information and comprising: a display procedure causing the computer to display, in response to a display instruction, guidance information indicated by a corresponding guidance part, on a display part of the electronic apparatus (551' figure 9, column 8, lines 35-39).

As per claim 22, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable storage medium wherein said program further comprises: a procedure causing the computer to receive the display instruction from a switch which is provided at said location or from a switch which is provided at a position other than said location, when the switch is operated (551' figure 9, column 6, lines 10-24, column 8, lines 35-39).

As per claim 23, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable storage medium wherein said program further comprises: a procedure causing the computer to receive the display instruction from a switch which is integrally provided on the guidance part, when the switch is operated (551' column 6, lines 10-24).

As per claim 25, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable storage wherein the guidance information includes at least one of information selected from a group consisting of operating instructions, cautions, layout of parts within the electronic apparatus, product name of the electronic apparatus, model number of the electronic apparatus, rated voltage, rated current, and methods of contacting services (551' figure 9, column 8, lines 31-39).

As per claim 26, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable storage medium wherein the guidance information includes characters and/or pictures (551' figure 3, 114, 115A, 115B, column 8, lines 56-62).

As per claim 31, **Goldsmith et al** discloses an electronic apparatus comprising: display means; a plurality of apparatus parts subject to maintenance (551' figure 10-11); at least one guidance part to indicate guidance information including operation procedures and warnings related to maintenance (551' figure 10-11, column 9, lines 46-54), said guidance part being provided at a location corresponding to one of the apparatus parts to which the guidance information is related (551' column 6, lines 38-40); and control means for displaying guidance information indicated by a corresponding guidance part on the display means, in response to a display instruction (551' figure 3, 213).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claim 4, 7-10, 14, 17-20, 24, 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Goldsmith et al** (US Patent No. 5,010,551) in view of **Machida et al** (US Pub. No. 2001/0026290 A1).

As per claim 4, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose the hierarchical structure of the guidance information as per claim invention. However, **Machida et al** discloses the guidance information has a hierarchical structure, and further comprising the steps of: displaying guidance

Art Unit: 3609

information of a hierarchical layer of the hierarchical structure specified by a layer specifying instruction (290' abstract). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the layer of hierarchical structure of guidance information in order to have a plurality of menu choice for user.

As per claim 7, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose the element as per claim invention. However, **Machida et al** discloses the displaying step displays the guidance information on the display part after subjecting the guidance information to a color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination and/or an enlarging conversion process in response to a conversion instruction (290' figure 4, paragraph 0156-0157, paragraph 0162). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination and/or an enlarging conversion process in response to a conversion instruction in order to allow users to choose the printing colors and sizes.

As per claim 8, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose the element as claim per invention. However, **Machida et al** discloses the guidance output method further comprises the steps of printing the guidance information in response to a print instruction (290' figure 7, 141, paragraph 0103). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the steps of printing the guidance information in response to a print instruction in order to allow users to operate an electronic apparatus easier.



Art Unit: 3609

As per claim 9, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose the element as claim per invention. However, **Machida et al** discloses the guidance output method further comprising the steps of: printing the guidance information in response to a print instruction (290' figure 7, 141, paragraph 0103), said printing step printing the guidance information after subjecting the guidance information to a color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination in response to a color conversion instruction (290' figure 15-16, paragraph 0156, paragraph 0162). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the print instruction and a color conversion process for color discrimination in order to allow users to operate an electronic apparatus easier and to have more options.

As per claim 10, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose the element as claim per invention. However, **Machida et al** discloses the electronic apparatus is selected from a group consisting of copying apparatus, facsimile apparatus, printing apparatus, composite apparatus, air conditioning apparatus, and vending machines (290' page 2, paragraph 0034). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al in order to diversify the electronic apparatus with the system of Machida et al for the purpose of more applicable and more useful to electronic apparatus.

As per claim 14, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the controller displays on the display part, but it does not expressly disclose other elements in claim 14. **Machida et al** discloses the electronic apparatus, wherein: the guidance information has a hierarchical structure, and guidance information of a hierarchical layer of the hierarchical structure specified by a layer specifying

Art Unit: 3609

instruction (290' abstract). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have provided the hierarchical structure layer, as taught by Machida et al, for the purpose of an operation information input/output device of having guidance information more easily, accurately, and quickly.

As per claim 17, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose the color conversion process and enlarging conversion process. **Machida et al** discloses the electronic apparatus wherein said controller displays the guidance information on the display part after subjecting the guidance information to a color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination and/or an enlarging conversion process in response to a conversion instruction (290' figure 4, page 11, paragraph 0156-157, 0162). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have provided the color conversion process and enlarging conversion process, as taught by Machida et al, for the purpose of facilitating color discrimination and facilitating discrimination of the characters and/or picture of the guidance information.

As per claim 18, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose a print instruction. **Machida et al** discloses the electronic further comprises a printing part, said controller printing the guidance information by the printing part in response to a print instruction (290' figure 4, 141, paragraph 0013). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have provided the printing instruction, as taught by Machida et al, for the purpose of providing the guidance information to the user more easier.

As per claim 19, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose a printing part (figure 7, 141) and color conversion. **Machida et al** disclose the electronic apparatus further comprising: a printing

Art Unit: 3609

part, said controller printing the guidance information by the printing part after subjecting the guidance information to a color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination in response to a color conversion instruction (290' figure 4, page 11, paragraph 0156-157, 0162). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have provided the color conversion process and a printing part, as taught by Machida et al, for the purpose of facilitating color discrimination and providing the guidance information to the user more easier.

As per claim 20, **Goldsmith et al** does not disclose the element as claim per invention. However, **Machida et al** discloses the electronic apparatus is selected from a group consisting of copying apparatus, facsimile apparatus, printing apparatus, composite apparatus, air conditioning apparatus, and vending machines (290' page 2, paragraph 0034). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al in order to diversify the electronic apparatus with the system of Machida et al for the purpose of more applicable and more useful to electronic apparatus.

As per claim 24, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable medium (551' figure 3), but it does not expressly disclose other elements in claim 24. **Machida et al** discloses the guidance information has a hierarchical structure, and said program further comprises: a procedure causing the computer to display guidance information of a hierarchical layer of the hierarchical structure specified by a layer specifying instruction (290' abstract). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the layer of

Art Unit: 3609

hierarchical structure of guidance information in order to have a plurality of menu choice for user.

As per claim 27, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable medium storage, but it does not expressly other element in claim 27. **Machida et al** discloses the display procedure causes the computer to display the guidance information on the display part after subjecting the guidance information to a color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination and/or an enlarging conversion process in response to a conversion instruction (290' figure 4, paragraph 0156-0157, paragraph 0162). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination and/or an enlarging conversion process in response to a conversion instruction in order to allow users to choose the printing colors and sizes.

As per claim 28, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable storage medium (figure 3, 114A, 114B, 115A, 115B), but it does not expressly disclose the other elements in claim 28. **Machida et al** the program further comprises a print procedure causing the computer to print the guidance information in response to a print instruction (290' figure 7, 141, paragraph 0103). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the steps of printing the guidance information in response to a print instruction in order to allow users to operate an electronic apparatus easier.

As per claim 29, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable storage medium (figure 3, 114A, 114B, 115A, 115B), but it does not expressly disclose the other elements in

Art Unit: 3609

claim 29. **Machida et al** the program further comprises a print procedure causing the computer to print the guidance information in response to a print instruction, said print procedure causing the computer to print the guidance information after subjecting the guidance information to a color conversion process for facilitating color discrimination in response to a color conversion instruction (290' figure 15-16, page 11, paragraph 0156, 0162). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al to include the print instruction and a color conversion process for color discrimination in order to allow users to operate an electronic apparatus easier and to have more options.

As per claim 30, **Goldsmith et al** discloses the computer-readable storage medium (figure 3, 114A, 114B, 115A, 115B), but it does not expressly disclose the other elements in claim 30. **Machida et al** the electronic apparatus is selected from a group consisting of copying apparatus, facsimile apparatus, printing apparatus, composite apparatus, air conditioning apparatus, and vending machines (page 2, paragraph 0034). Therefore, at the time of the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art to have modified the guidance output method of Goldsmith et al in order to diversify the electronic apparatus with the system of Machida et al for the purpose of more applicable and more useful to electronic apparatus.

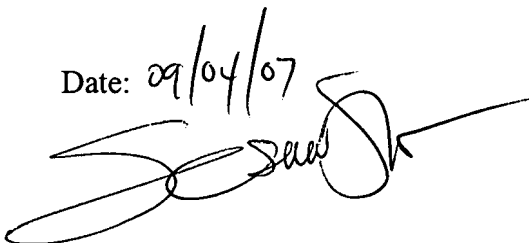
Art Unit: 3609

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sesna Sam whose telephone number is (571) 270-3277. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Khoi Tran can be reached on (571) 272-6919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Date: 09/04/07



Sesna Sam



MATTHEW S. GART  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600